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# Intelligence Facts Shaped To Fit Policy, Probe Told

By the Associated Press

A retired admiral, Charles M. Cooke, says it appeared to him after the fall of the Chinese mainland to the Communists that United States intelligence reports from Formosa shaped the facts to fit policy.

Admiral Cooke's statement was made in an interview with Robert Morris, counsel of the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee, on October 7 at Sonoma, Calif., the retired Naval officer's home.

The text of the interview was made public yesterday, and it was ordered placed in the subcommittee's record by Chairman Eastland, Democrat of Mississippi.

Senator Eastland said Admiral Cooke's testimony was important in view of what a subcommittee statement described as "the recent, apparent failure of intelligence to inform the United States Government of developments in the Middle East."

Admiral Cooke was the Navy's chief strategical officer during almost all of World War II, and from early 1946 until shortly before his retirement in 1948 he was commander of the 7th Fleet in the West Pacific.

## Reports Criticized

In February, 1950, after his retirement, he went to Formosa as a correspondent for the International News Service and he told Mr. Morris that some of the intelligence reports filed by the consul general's staff did not coincide with his own observations.

"As it appeared to me," he

said, "there was a policy that had been set up in Washington by the United States Government and which was being followed by the State Department representatives in Formosa, which required that intelligence facts should conform to the policy rather than have a change of policy that would be guided by the facts."

Admiral Cooke, who was a witness before the subcommittee at public hearings in October, 1951, referred to reports that the fall of Formosa to the Communists was imminent and to others dealing with the fall of Hainan in April, 1950, and the Nationalist evacuation of the Chusan Archipelago the following month.

## Proposes Intelligence Group

As a safeguard against what he called "a serious possibility" that others may "twist facts" in the future in pursuance of a policy, he proposed that a full-time intelligence committee be set up to advise the National Security Council.

He suggested it be composed of officers of each service, nearing or just past retirement age, and representatives of the State Department. He said the members shall visit critical foreign areas, acquaint themselves with the facts and report back to the Security Council.

Admiral Cooke also proposed the creation of a congressional watchdog committee to insure that the intelligence committee "should not at any time be composed of those who would conform to an adopted theory of policy."